(b) if so, whether many of them, particularly, dance shows, are bordering on obscenity;

(c) whether Government propose to introduce a system for regulating the content of such shows; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government have constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) to monitor the violations of the Programme Code and Advertising Code prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder.

(c) and (d) All programmes have to be within the parameters laid down under the above Rules. The IMC, either *suo-motu* or on receipt of complaints, suggests action against the offending broadcaster and action is taken by the Ministry, thereafter, as per rules. At present there is no pre-censorship of programme on private TV channels and it is not being contemplated to specifically regulate the dance shown as they too have to follow the Programme and Advertising Codes.

Recent happenings in the UNI

170. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government have been drawn to the happenings in the United News of India (UNI) where the Board of Directors is moving towards setting a major stake of the news agency to a single media group, Zee Tele Films; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to stall this move in defence of the founding principles of the organization-press freedom, free flow of impartial news coverage and competition set by first Prime Minister of the country in 1961?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter of selling of shares of UNI to a media group is presently *subjudice.*